



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP16-454-000; CP16-454-003; CP16-455-000; CP16-455-002]

Rio Grande LNG, LLC; Rio Bravo Pipeline Company, LLC; Notice Seeking Public Comment on Responses to Information Requests

On May 5, 2016, Rio Grande LNG, LLC (Rio Grande) filed an application under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)¹ and Part 153 of the Commission's regulations² for authorization to construct and operate a liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminal on the north embankment of the Brownsville Ship Channel in Cameron County, Texas. At the same time, Rio Bravo Pipeline Company, LLC (Rio Bravo) filed an application under NGA section 7(c)³ and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations⁴ for authorization to construct and operate a natural gas pipeline system that would deliver gas to the terminal for liquefaction and export. On November 22, 2019, the Commission authorized Rio Grande's and Rio Bravo's respective proposals, subject to conditions.⁵ On August 3, 2021, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit (D.C. Circuit) partially remanded, but did not vacate, the Commission's authorization.⁶ On August 16, 2022, and August

¹ 15 U.S.C. 717b.

² 18 CFR part 153 (2021).

³ 15 U.S.C. 717f(c).

⁴ 18 CFR part 157 (2021).

⁵ *Rio Grande LNG, LLC*, 169 FERC ¶ 61,131 (2019), *order on reh'g*, 170 FERC ¶ 61,046 (2020).

⁶ *Vecinos para el Bienestar de la Comunidad Costera v. FERC*, 6 F.4th 1321, 1332 (D.C. Cir. 2021) (remanding orders without vacatur for the Commission to redress deficiencies regarding its analyses of project impacts on climate change and

31, 2022, Commission staff issued environmental information requests to Rio Grande in order to address deficiencies noted in the D.C. Circuit's August 3, 2021 decision. Rio Grande responded to Commission staff's information requests on August 22, 2022, and September 15, 2022.⁷ Similarly on May 2 and May 10, 2022, Commission staff issued information requests to Rio Bravo to address deficiencies noted in the D.C. Circuit's August 3, 2021 decision, to which Rio Bravo provided responses on June 1, 2022.

By this notice, Commission staff requests public comments on the issues addressed in Rio Grande's and Rio Bravo's responses to staff's above-referenced information requests of May 2, May 10, August 16, and August 31, 2022, regarding environmental justice communities, visual impacts, air quality modeling, and emergency planning. Any person wishing to comment on these issues may do so.

To ensure that your comments within the scope of this notice are timely and properly recorded, please submit your initial comments no later than **October 21, 2022**. Reply comments are due no later than **November 4, 2022**.

There are three methods you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has staff available to assist you at (866) 208-3676 or FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov.

- 1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature, which is located on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to FERC Online. Using eComment is an easy method for submitting

environmental justice communities).

⁷ Rio Grande submitted a partial response on August 22, 2022, addressing questions related to air modeling and environmental justice.

brief, text-only comments on a project;

- 2) You can file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to FERC Online. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; a comment on a particular project is considered a "Comment on a Filing";
- 3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the Commission. Be sure to reference the project docket number (CP16-454-000 and CP16-455-000) on your letter. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, MD 20852.

Additional information about the project, including copies of the above-referenced information requests and responses, are available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at **(866) 208-FERC**, or on the FERC website at www.ferc.gov using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number in the "Docket Number" field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

Dated: September 30, 2022.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2022-21783 Filed: 10/5/2022 8:45 am; Publication Date: 10/6/2022]